

JCOMM Expert Team on Marine Climatology (ETMC)

Preliminary Discussion: Intersessional Work Programme

S. Woodruff, Revised 23 September 2006

This provides a brief summary of existing (Table 1) and possible new (Table 2) tasks for consideration for the ETMC Intersessional Work Programme.

The document is intended to begin discussion within ETMC, as an initial step in formulating the final Work Programme, and to solicit tentative interest in commitments by Members to undertake or participate on individual task items.

The ETMC Work Programme will probably be finalized as an outcome from a meeting of the JCOMM Data Management Program Area Coordination Group (DMPA-CG), scheduled for 10-12 October 2006, Geneva.

The Consolidated MARCDAT/CLIMAR Recommendations (Rayner et al., 2006) should also be considered as we develop the Work Programme.

Table 1. Existing and ongoing ETMC tasks (proposed). Numbers listed in [brackets] refers to relevant sections in JCOMM (2004). For more information see the Progress Reports as of July 2004 and Action Items from ETMC-I that appeared in JCOMM (2004) Annexes XI and XII.

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Task</u> | <u>Responsibility</u> | <u>Schedule</u> |
|------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Continue review of the IMMT format, MQCS, and the MQCS software. | GCCs/ETMC | Ongoing |
| 2 | Continue review and cross-validation of electronic logbooks (QC, codes, future electronic submission, etc.). [3.1.3, 3.3.3] | ETMC and developers | Ongoing |
| 3 | Continue implementation and review of the IMMA format, leading to publication in a JCOMM Technical Report. [4.3.1] | ETMC Chair and interested Members | Ongoing |
| 4 | Enhance the GCC Germany website, and external linkages to it, and implement a GCC UK website [3.4.2.2, 3.4.3.1]. More generally, an improved "route map" to distributed MCSS data and products was noted as an important requirement by the DMPA-CG in 2002. | GCCs and ETMC | (draft GCC UK website 24 July 2006) |
| 5 | MCSS Summaries: Make available on the GCC Germany website example recent decadal Summaries. [3.4.3.1] | GCC Germany | |
| 6 | MCSS Summaries: questionnaire analysis and issuance of report. [3.4.3.1] | Miętus et al. | (rev. draft 23 Sep. 2006) |
| 7 | MCSS Summaries: continue discussion of future requirements, possible modernization, and relationships to the proposed expanded involvement of ETMC with oceanographic and ice climatologies (ref. Table 2, item 14). | ETMC | |
| 8 | Continue review of the BUFR template for SHIP (and BUOY) data, if so requested [3.2.2]. | ETMC chair and members | (No CBS request) |

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| | Note: Recently emerging possibilities for shipboard transmission of BUFR data (e.g., from TurboWin), including enhanced metadata, might usefully be tied into this general task. | | |
| 9 | Continue imaging and website availability of historical marine publications from WMO and other sources (e.g., WMO Manual on Codes, IMMPC/IMMT, MQCS). [4.2.3] | Yoshida, ETMC, and NOAA/CDMP | Ongoing |
| 10 | Further action, if required, to finalize the CLIMAR-II special issue of the <i>International J. Climatology</i> (2005, 25(7)) as the Dynamic Part of the WMO <i>Guide to the Applications of Marine Climatology</i> (WMO–No.781). [7.1.1] | Secretariat and ETMC Chair | (WMO link, and other steps initiated, Sep. 2006) |
| 11 | Participate in planning, as may be requested by JCOMM, for a self-funded CLIMAR-III workshop in 2007. | ETMC | |
| 12 | Representation on Joint CCI/CLIVAR/JCOMM Expert Team on Climate Change Detection Indices (ETCCDI). | ETMC Chair and Members as selected by JCOMM | |
| 13 | Other interaction as appropriate with the WMO Commission for Climatology (CCI) (e.g., feedback for the WMO <i>Guide to Climatological Practices</i> (WMO–No.100)). [7.3.2] | ETMC | |

Table 2. New ETMC tasks proposed by JCOMM (14-15), plus other suggestions.

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Task</u> | <u>Responsibility</u> | <u>Schedule</u> |
|------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 14 | JCOMM (2005) (sec. 7.1.18): “The Commission noted that the work carried out by ETMC was strongly focused on marine meteorology. It urged the ETMC to include in its work plan for the inter-sessional period, an examination of how both oceanographic climatologies and ice climatologies could be coordinated so as to be seen as an integrated product.” A potential initial step would be to use an expanded IMMA format (i.e., with new attachments) as a vehicle towards operational integration of selected oceanographic profile measurements (e.g., near-surface ocean temperature and salinity), with marine meteorological (ship and buoy) data from GTS. | | |
| 15 | Proposed development of an JCOMM Extreme Wave Event Archive. ETMC has been requested to consider this possibility, working with the Expert Team on Wind Waves and Storm Surges (ETWS) and appropriate IODE or meteorological centers where in situ extreme wave (measured; e.g., significant wave height \geq | | |

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| | 14m) and meteorological data exist (e.g., Holliday et al. 2006). The objective is to develop a database of high-quality measured (e.g., ship, buoy, OceanSITES) data, especially in the open ocean far removed from the coast. This archive would form an invaluable data set of measurements that could be used to validate wind wave models and also satellite altimeter wave estimates, which have largely unknown characteristics at these heights. | | |
| 16 | Continue past CMM/SGMC and JCOMM work (JCOMM 2000; Lindau et al.) to adjust the wind force data back to about 1854 using an improved equivalence scale (most likely the implementation should produce a separate field, so that the present WMO 1100-based values can still be archived and made available). | | |
| 17 | MQCS augmentation: (a) Expansion of MQCS, where possible nationally, to include the integration and archival of QC feedback flags supplied operationally by weather models. (b) Convergence of MQCS with QC procedures used in the oceanographic community. | | |
| 18 | ODAS platform and instrumental metadata: Contribute towards the assembly of historical metadata for buoys, ocean platforms, and other Ocean Data Acquisition Systems (ODAS), and submission to appropriate archive repositories including the ODAS metadata centre (China). | | |
| 19 | Ship platform and instrumental metadata: Contribute towards the assembly of additional historical national and international ship metadata, and submission to appropriate archive repositories.† | | |
| 20 | Historical ship data rescue: Interactions with the REcovery of Logbooks And International Marine data (RECLAIM) project, with the WMO/CCI Expert Team on the Rescue, Preservation, and Digitization of Climate Records, etc. Related: further development and expansion of the IMMA format for unified storage of old historical data elements. | | |

† WMO–Publication No.47 metadata for 1955-72 were recently imaged and digitized, and for 1973-98 are in the process of imaging, by NOAA's Climate Database Modernization Program (CDMP), with the extensive assistance of the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton.

References

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- JCOMM, 2004: Expert Team on Marine Climatology, First Session, Gdynia, Poland, 7-10 July 2004, Final Report. JCOMM Meeting Report No. 32 (available from: www.wmo.ch/web/aom/marprog/Publications/publications.htm).
- JCOMM, 2005: *Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, Second Session, Halifax, Canada, 19-27 September 2005*. Abridged Final Report with Resolutions and Recommendations, WMO-No. 995 (available from: ioc.unesco.org/jcomm/).
- Rayner, N., E. Kent, S. Woodruff and D. Parker, 2006: 2nd International Workshop on Advances in the Use of Historical Marine Climate Data (MARCDAT-II), Meeting Report (available from: icoads.noaa.gov/marcdat2/).